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The next Volume of this paper will commence Jan. 1, 1854. It will then become the exclusive property of the subscriber, who should then be addressed accordingly. It has been redeemed from embarrassment, placed in good condition, and begins the new year with higher hopes than any preceding Volume.—Under various names this paper, commenced by Prof. Smyth in 1837, now approaches the manhood of years, and its character and strength should be becoming its age.

The principles of the Inquirer are well known. No voice which Freedom needs shall fail to utter; no exposure which oppression demands shall it hesitate to make; no plea which a Right Progress may require shall it fail to urge. It will be independent of all dictation, frank, direct, earnest, and while maintaining fearlessly its own convictions, will liberally and respectfully listen to the views of others.

Whatever modification of measures the varying condition of things may demand, its principles and aims can know no compromise. It will hope to know when to fight, and when to negotiate and to win. Whatever may help humanity will receive from it all the aid which earnestness may command, or a steady purpose create. It will meet oppression in every form in set opposition; yet with a bearing which would meet and master it through a generous co-operation. It will strive, in short, to do for our country, under its Constitution, whatever may make Freedom and the Constitution ours, God Supreme, and man a Brother.

The principles of slavery must be expelled from the religious institutions of the country by the force of an enlightened public opinion. The Inquirer will labor zealously in the cause of Temperance, holding the Maine Law as one grand exemplification of Free Democratic principles.

The pleasure and benefit of the Family, the good of the Farmer, the advancement of Education, will be kept in view.

As large a space as possible will be devoted to News from all parts of the world—not the trivial incidents, but important intelligence—by which the careful reader will have a glance at the world as it flies. Markets, Prices Current, Shipping News, &c., will receive careful attention. The literary matter of the paper will be still improved.

Political intelligence, especially as it bears on the cause of freedom, will be carefully and closely watched.

The doings and sayings in Congress and the State Legislature will be given in condensed form.

Besides the many excellent correspondents in this State to whom I am under much obligation, others in different parts of the country are engaged, some at considerable expense. This department will be extended and enriched as circulation affords the means.

A series of valuable articles may be expected from an intelligent writer in the heart of the South, on the sad condition of the free laborers there, consequent upon slavery. These will commence early in January.

The condition of things in this State, as well as throughout the country, make the coming year one of peculiar promise to our great cause, and every one who has a heart for the oppressed, will feel that the year will be a glorious harvest. Old parties are dissolving, prejudices are relaxing, new formations must arise, into which the principles of liberty must enter if its friends firmly do their duty. The slavery question is soon to be re-opened, never again to close till the "oppressed go free."

The Press—the Home Press, is our main reliance, and with the co-operation of our kind friends, the Inquirer shall not be found wanting. To meet its necessities its circulation must be extended. Good crops and high prices make this now practicable.

#### TERMS.

Single copy one year, \$2.00  
Single copy, in advance, 1.75  
Two or more new subscribers at the same time, for a year, each 1.50

For obtaining new subscribers, 50 cts. may be retained, or credited on account, or relinquished to the new subscriber.

Five Hundred new subscribers are wanted to begin the New Volume on the first of January. To all who subscribe between this and that time, the paper will be sent gratis.

Money sent by mail, post-paid, is always at our risk. Receipts returned, enclosed in the paper.

A. WILLEY, Editor and Proprietor.  
PORTLAND, Nov. 28, 1853.

By a note from Mrs. Vinton we learned last week that her husband was prevented from being at Buxton by a fever, of which he had been sick three weeks. He was improving.

#### Increase of the Navy.

The New York Tribune expresses our views fully in regard to the proposal of Secretary Dobbin to increase the U. S. Navy. If there is any thing we should guard against, it is standing armies and overgrown navies. The Tribune lays down this doctrine:—"Commerce protects itself and needs no navy."—In proportion as we increase men-of-war, do we squander the capital which should go to build merchant vessels, or increase home economies.

"Sailors and armies and navies, and diplomatic functions all go together. Are the industrious workmen—mechanics, farmers and tradesmen of this country—prepared, under the huge fraud of so-called democracy, to multiply the heroes of the quarter-deck—the candidates for aggressive war—the chances of exhausting conflicts?"

"No sooner does some village lawyer get squatted into one of the useless Secretaryships at Washington—which all ought to be abolished—than he swells into a little Napoleon, and cries for men and money, and men! The manifesto of the Secretary in question precisely exemplifies this assertion. Away with such rubbish and language as the Secretary's 'armies'! Let the people be truly democratic, and govern themselves, and not longer surrender themselves to the control of centralized authorities. Then when they have any need to fight, they will defend their homes and rights to some purpose. The first navy the nation ever had was the best one, and that was made up altogether of merchantmen."

FUGITIVE SLAVES.—"We have just met," says the Chicago Free Press, "with one of this class of travelers to the land of British Freedom—a woman advanced in life, in whose complexion we could detect no trace of African characteristics. Her employment in the land of chivalry was that of a field hand. Her patience held out until her last child was sold down the river to satisfy the claims of her master's creditors, when, to save herself from a like calamity, she set her face Canada-ward."

## Portland Inquirer.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1853.

FOR PRESIDENT IN 1856,  
**JOHN P. HALE.**  
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

MR. HEZEKIAH DODGE,  
Of this city, is our authorized travelling Agent for the Inquirer.

#### State Committee.

A meeting of the State Committee of the Free Democracy is requested at the Temperance House, Augusta, next Monday evening.  
A. WILLEY, Chairman.

#### Files Lost.

Some one has taken a volume of our files from this office, and perhaps forgotten it. Please return it.

#### New Subscribers.

We have the pleasure of saying to our friends that within a very short time about one hundred new subscribers have come in. With many thanks, we look with high hopes to the next few weeks. The 500 will inspire the whole movement in Maine and make the new era certain. No paper abroad can do it.

Every man who stops his paper now, says fail! Every man should renew, or get a substitute. Now is the time to go forward.

FIRST PAGE.—"Fanny Fern" will be read in the family with much pleasure. The "Volunteer Counsel" is an article of extraordinary literary power and beauty. It is a model.

But we invite special attention to the article from the Independent. It is of most serious import, and however painful its truths, they are but feeble premonitions of the future.

#### Convention at Windham.

The friends of Freedom and Temperance in Cumberland county, are requested to meet at the Congregational Church in Windham, on Thursday and Friday, January 12th and 13th, to discuss these great moral questions, and devise methods for their mutual advancement and permanent maintenance.

C. E. Purinton, J. A. Parsons,  
Jason Hanson, John Webb,  
Ephraim Legrow, Edw. Anderson,  
Wm. Kingman, Jr., Sam'l Garland,  
Luther Wiswall.

THE WINDHAM CONVENTION should now engage the attention of Liberty and Temperance men in this county. It will by its members indicate what Cumberland means to do. Give notice and get ready.

A good delegation is already appointed from this city, with many of our ablest speakers, such as Gen. Fessenden, Rev. Mr. Peck and others. A handbill will be issued. We must have a rouser.

#### New Portland.

See the noble action going on in that region. "Help those women." We cannot decline their invitation, and intend to be there to see them at least.

THE BUXTON CONVENTION was a meeting of deep interest. The bad traveling prevented many from other towns being there, but from that town the attendance was good and increased to the close. The great reforms of Liberty and Temperance were enlisted in by a strong body of men and women, about 120 names being given on the spot. They are going to work in Buxton in good earnest to carry that town for those great measures combined. Meetings of the Association are to be held in all parts of the town, addresses obtained, and papers and documents circulated. Men of all parties have engaged in the work, as well as the ladies.—Imitate the example.

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WE learn that measures are in progress for a grand county convention in Somerset. That is right.

IN Oxford also a similar plan is entertained. Have the matter well arranged so as to move strongly, then go forward.

MR. JOHN STEVENS is informed that his letter, dated Dec. 21, with \$7 enclosed for the Inquirer, came safe to hand, and the money credited as ordered. He will please accept our thanks.

#### To the Patrons of the Inquirer.

It has already been announced that my connection with the Inquirer, as its responsible publisher, will cease with the present No. I have a few words, and but a few, to offer on the occasion.

The history of the paper you are mostly familiar with. Suffice it for me to say that its financial affairs have been conducted with as much accuracy and promptness with reference to its subscribers as was possible, where there are so many and so small accounts.

The credit of the paper has not been permitted to suffer, although at many periods since its commencement it has been largely indebted to me; and the price paid me for printing, from the first, has been based on the actual cost, without any profit whatever. And now, with the efficient aid of the editor and other friends, having carried the paper through its days of infancy—paid its debts, and started it, in mercantile phrase, "clear of the world," I transfer my interest in the paper to Mr. Willey, without any consideration other than the interest I feel in the principles it has advocated, and a sincere desire that the cause of Freedom in the land may be promoted and speedily triumph.

I wish it distinctly understood that my connection with the paper has been the management of the business department, and not the editorial. I think the editorial department has been marked with signal ability, and it would be more than human to claim that it had always been conducted with sound discretion. "To err is human." I have differed from Mr. Willey as to the best course to pursue on several important matters, but doubt if you will find one in a thousand who will do as well as he has done, or with whom you or I could agree in all matters any better. If injury or injustice has been done to any, where full retraction and consideration has not been promptly rendered, I am not aware of it, but take this opportunity to say that it is a very difficult task to judge of facts at a distance, and equally as hard to restrain indignation and contempt, or so temper a merited rebuke, as to always appear to be in a Christian spirit, when professed Christians are

found retarding in a ten-fold proportion every work of reform they oppose, by the very standing they have in the church. May God have mercy on their souls. It seems beyond human power to do so good, as it is beyond human power to please them.

B. THURSTON, Publisher.

#### The Free Democracy.—The Legislature.

The Free Democracy party will hold a very important position in the approaching Legislature. Not at all unlikely they may have the decisive power on the most important questions there. The State may again, as heretofore, be saved from the grasp of the ruin power by this invincible body of true men. We shall have Elected men in the House certainly—very likely more; and two, if not three, in the Senate.

A noticeable fact embodies the unconscious testimony of society to the superior reliability of men standing on the basis of freedom and temperance combined, over mere temperance men. Ever since the Fall election all have been wondering what the Morrill men would do—whether they would stand their ground or not. But not the first word has been raised respecting the Free Soil party, which is of about equal strength. Every body knows beforehand where they will be, and what they will do. In no way can the Maine Law be so safely and permanently secured as by increasing the power of that party,—the only fixed Law party in the State, and whose members are beyond the reach of hostile party influences.

The party of Just Government will have a heavy responsibility in the Legislature, and it will have the right men there to discharge it—true men, able, upright but not bigots—men of integrity combined with practical judgment; who understand that the way to increase the power of their party is to make it most useful to the people. The Maine Law, and every other beneficial measure, will have their hearty support as far as it is not inconsistent with the cause of personal and Constitutional liberty. The essential interests of that they will never violate; and if other temperance men want their aid, they must keep within those limits. The first Wednesday in January will be awaited with unusual interest this year.

#### Temperance Democrats.

That body of citizens who supported Hon. A. P. Morrill at the polls gave the State a noble example, which should not be forgotten. When their party proved false to the highest civil and social welfare of the State, they abandoned party and maintained the right. It is a cheering proof, that subject as the people have been to political machinery, there is a point where manhood rises above all such political influences.

But the question has been debated ever since Sept., will their integrity hold out and control their Representatives in the Legislature? Their old party allies, after trading them six months, seem quite confident of their penitent return, and disgraceful treachery to their position at the polls. It is confidently asserted that the Morrill Representatives in Waldo county have been seduced under the artful operation of Collector E. K. Smart, a bitter hater of the Maine Law.

Every possible influence has been brought to bear on these men in this State, and according to the Belfast Journal, Washington has also been stoutly applied to break them down. How much money has been, and is to be employed, we are not informed. Nothing, however, will be left untried by those desperate Pillsbury leaders to drive or bribe them, so that power may again return to their own hands, to be employed against the Liquor Law more cautiously indeed, but only the more fatally.

But we are confident those men will all prove firm and true. The eye of the State is on them, and their constituents will watch them. Indeed, as circumstances are, the man who falters will be suspected of being subject to pecuniary considerations. There is no danger of that. They will be true. A Pillsbury leader, we are told, lately undertook a mission to those men, to see what he could do with them. But after proceeding into one or two counties, he gave it up, swearing he "never saw so stiff a set of fellows. He could do nothing with them." So they will find.

#### Pillsbury Democrats.

That party hopes to receive from the whigs whatever aid may be necessary to secure the election of Mr. Pillsbury for Governor. They would be willing to make Mr. Crosby Judge in place of Mr. Wells, whose term expires, and let him be Senator. If whigs choose to take that course, the friends of progress will not very seriously object, for that party would soon cease to be found in the State.

There will be four parties in the Legislature, and arrangements must be made among some of them, but woe to the men who attempt to make it on the side of public degradation and ruin.

#### Position Defined.

But it was said, he (Pillsbury) was opposed to the liquor law. Whether true or not, we never denied it our duty to inquire, as it was a question entirely illegitimate. Admitting, however, for the sake of the argument, his opinions on that subject are now of no consequence, the law being beyond the reach of the next governor.—Argus.

This defines correctly the position of that party and paper on the Maine Law.

Whenever its enemies obtain nominations they are to be supported without deeming it a "duty" even "to inquire" into the fact. The bastard thing is to be simply kicked out as "ASTUTELY ILLEGITIMATE."

This demonstrates that the Morrill men can never return to the party unless its position is radically changed; and temperance men still in that party can see where they are. They must sacrifice their temperance professions or abandon that party.

It is in the power of a governor by his administrative influence to destroy the spirit of the law and neutralize its efficiency at home, and place the public influence of the State abroad against it. None but its enemies will call that of "no consequence."

CANADA.—Some idea of the capacity of that country may be had by the fact, that the average product of wheat in Upper Canada is more than that of Ohio by over four bushels per acre; and the growth of it is increasing twice as fast as in Ohio. Their rate of increase in the growth of corn also exceeds that of the States as 160 to 60! In 1851 Upper Canada grew 12,802,272 bushels of wheat; and besides supplying the deficiency of some 3,000,000 bushels in Lower Canada, exported 4,276,872 bushels.

#### Sarah Sands Dinner.

We were out of the city last week when that interesting occasion occurred, and have little space to devote to it now. J. B. Brown Esq. was President. Lancaster Hall was finely decorated with British and American flags, and the table was richly furnished. Toasts were offered, and well responded to by Dr. Carruthers, Gen. Fessenden, Mr. Little, Capt. Ilsey of the S. Sands, Mayor Cahoon, Mr. Goodwin of Portsmouth, Mr. Ryan of Montreal, and many others. We quote a few toasts, with part of Dr. Carruthers' speech, whose allusion to the fugitives was mainly and just, but what a shame to us was implied!

The Union of the States.—Established by the pressure of commercial necessity, now strengthened and enriched by commercial enterprise.

To this the Band responded with the tune of "Hail Columbia."

2d. Canada.—Her present prosperous condition and far-reaching enterprise, an honor both to her government and people.

A round of cheers, and tune "Rule Britannia."

This called up Dr. Carruthers, formerly a resident of Canada, who spoke as follows:—

"Having resided five years in the city of Montreal, I may be supposed to know something of the sentiments prevailing in the neighboring Colony in reference to the magnificent project now in progress. On a recent visit to our sister city, I was glad to find the term annexation was familiar as a household word—not, however, as the term is understood in certain districts of our Union—not the annexation of territory but of interests—annexation not martial but mercantile, such annexation as involves a community of feeling and of views in reference to the best and highest earthly interests of communities now happily brought into such near proximity to each other. Sir, I for one wish for no other kind of annexation, and for this, amongst other reasons, that there are certain blood relations of mine, swarthy in complexion, indeed, but in all other respects human like ourselves, who are said to move more nimbly and breathe more freely in Canada than elsewhere, and territorial annexation will not, I trust, take place till our American atmosphere is everywhere as pure and vitalizing as the air of Canada."

Sir, never did I expect to see such an es-cutecheon as the one before us—the union of the Lion and the Eagle. The pacific bonds which now exist between the nations thus symbolized, will not easily be broken.

3d. England.—The mother of us all; her children in the western hemisphere will untiringly emulate her commercial renown.

Responded to by the Band with the tune of "God save the Queen."

4th. The Canadian Steam Navigation Company.—Portland gratefully and joyfully welcomes the pioneer steamship of the line.

Tune—"Charlie over the water."

This toast was received with enthusiastic cheering, and it brought up Mr. Bellhouse, the agent of the company.

10th. The City of Portland.—The natural gate between the highway of nations and the noblest line of railways on this continent.

Tune—"Forest City."

To this toast Mayor Cahoon responded.

#### Slaveholders to Represent Freemen

The Brooklyn (La.) American, of Nov. 15th, states that Senator Bright from that State is a Slaveholder, his principal property being in which is well stocked with negroes.

If anything were wanting to complete the evidence that slavery has dreadfully corrupted the national mind, such facts would afford it. There is Senator Douglas, of Ill., also a slaveholder, yet we find papers in Maine which do not blush to extol him as a gem of democracy! Owning, robbing, whipping, plundering, stealing his own countrymen—men, women and children!—and not "brought up so," but in free States, leaving the imbruted victims of their crimes to the mercies of distant overseers and drivers. With what loathing and disgust should such creatures be viewed! Yet they can be supported even in New England for Presidents of the U. S., and as champions of "democracy." And so they are—fair specimens of what now passes by that name. Can any man or woman fail to see the work freedom has to do in this country, or the fearful necessity of doing it?

The very dogs must be taught to bark at such shameless, guilty men, or we are a lost people. Let them perpetrate their crimes in our State, and they march to Thomson for 20 years; yet we have editors here who extol them as the noblest patriots and democrats of the land! Is there not something to do?

#### Newspaper Notices.

The National Era begins a new volume enlarged, and with undiminished resources. It has a circulation of 28,000. It has a perfect claim to government printing, but law is nothing against slavery.

A Daily Era is to be commenced January 2, at \$5 for the session of Congress, or five months. We hope all who are able will order it, and that the enterprise will meet with abundant success. See advertisement.

The "Free West" is a new paper at Chicago, in place of the Western Citizen. Dr. Elder, of Philadelphia, is, it is hoped, will edit it, though arrangements are not yet completed. We hope some solid basis may yet be found at that important point for a Free Press, and Dr. Elder would be cordially welcomed there by the Free Press of the country.

The Congregationalist has changed editors. Dr. Beecher's late book on the "Conflict of Ages," it appears has been seized on by the Hunker Puritan Recorder to the prejudice of the Congregationalist, and for his sake its editor generously retires. Dr. Beecher has won the respect of the editorial profession, and we regret that malicious development of pious cant which has forced him from it. But his place is well supplied by Rev. A. L. Stone, of Park street, who will not be behind his predecessor in boldness, ability, or progressive bearing.

The Watchman and Journal, we forgot last week to say, has been removed from Gardiner to this city, based on a fund of some \$5000, and starts finally with a circulation of between 4000 and 5000 subscribers. Rev. B. D. Peck, editor. Abundant success to the new enterprise.

As Mr. Clifford will be supported for U. S. Senator, we advise his friends to get out an edition of his Bath Oration Speech, and place a copy on the desk of each member of the Legislature.

A fire occurred in the stable of the De Witt House, Leveon, last Friday night by which the building, 9 horses, 8 sleighs, 1 chaise and 10 tons of hay were consumed.

#### Androscoggin Railroad.

We have ever regarded that road, extending from the junction with the Waterville road in Leeds into Franklin County, as the best branch country road in the State yet projected. It commands nearly the whole Sandy River Valley, and can scarcely be disturbed by competition. The Farmington people are wise in their recent efforts to extend it to that place, its proper termination.

That enterprise is greatly indebted to B. H. Cushman, Esq., for the skill and energy requisite to drive it where it is. Upon his late resignation as superintendent, the employees of the road held a meeting at Leeds, and presented Mr. Cushman a gold watch, valued at \$100. The present was suitable, and richly deserved.

#### Nobly Begun!

The work of freedom in Congress is nobly begun. Gerrit Smith has led off as every body knew he would. He has carried the question up far above all discretionary and economical views, and solemnly arraigned this nation before the Bar of Justice. He has done it with such power and pungency as to admit of no escape or appeal. The slaveholders and their servants quail as they never did before. His speech has produced an impression rarely equalled. We have deferred an abstract until we have it entire—then our readers shall have it.

Mr. Giddings is alongside of his noble coadjutor, near whom he sits, and his speech will shut in full. The cause in Congress will be pressed with more power than ever, and all freemen should have the sources of information. Let us catch the note from Washington and arouse to action!

THE SENATE COMMITTEES.—We learn from a New York gentleman, who has been at Washington since the commencement of the session, that Mr. Seward moved in the course of the Whig Senators, that places on the committee should be assigned to Mr. Sumner by the whigs. This motion was strenuously opposed and emphatically voted down. Mr. Everett was among those who opposed it most earnestly. By the democratic Mr. Sumner was placed on two committees, to wit, that on Finance, and that on Enrolled Bills. He was already on a special committee.—Commonwealth.

This is the spirit and position of National Whigs, and pre-eminently of Massachusetts Whigs. For servile and brazen arrogance they are not exceeded even in S. C. That Edward Everett should thus seek to insult and depose his noble and accomplished colleague from an equal position with himself in the Senate, and deprive his State of its just share of influence in that body, simply because of his devotion to human liberty, is an instance of debasing, driving meanness of which every thing decently manly would be ashamed. It is also a serious invasion of important civil rights. He seems determined to burn in anew upon himself John Randolph's brand of "Doughface." Will the Whig Press speak out, and repudiate such conduct?

A Washington Correspondent of the New York Tribune has the following:

The littleness of Mr. Everett's conduct in this case was dictated by excessive devotion for the South. His position would have enabled him to act the man without sacrificing the confidence of his Southern friends. But today, like ambition sometimes overleaps itself. Pro-slavery intolerance in a Northern dough-face is contemptible enough at any time, but when it proceeds from a man who has himself been almost victimized by it, and only owes his escape to the magnanimity of a slaveholder, it becomes peculiarly odious. I was enabled to remember that Mr. Everett was objected to as Minister to England in the senate on account of his supposed anti-slavery views, and that Mr. Clay gallantly came to his rescue. He insisted if I remember correctly that it was illiberal and antinational to exclude a man from office on account of his entertaining such views."

For the Portland Inquirer.

#### SCARBOROUGH, Dec. 15.

Bro. Willey.—I think our anti-slavery brethren have as "hard times" in Gorham as in any place I have seen. The opposition is strong, and yet you can scarcely account for it, or even find it. The Methodist clergymen are well spoken, but some of their members might well belong to the "Union Safety Committee." I am disposed to speak kindly of them, however, as they opened their church for my Sabbath evening lecture.

The Congregational brethren also gave up their meeting, and came to hear me, except some of the conservatives, who appear as though they were acting "by authority" as guardians of "State Rights." This core of the "peculiar institution," assumed by men, clothes them with a wonderful inapproachable dignity, as they take a stand above the masses to look down with pity or contempt upon weaker minded brethren who will condescend to attend lectures where sympathy for the slave or pity for his master is excited. But these robes of tyrannical dignity, manufactured at the south for masters, set with poor grace upon our equals, inspiring them with disdain and contemptuous bearing towards the friends of the poor and oppressed, and only exciting disgust and pity for themselves in the end.

The ministers are evidently looking more favorably upon our movements since reading Uncle Tom, and since their fugitive slave law fidelity has been laughed at by the Charleston Mercury. Rev. Mr. Adams to me seemed right at heart, and is obtaining right views of truth and duty on this subject.

But I fear he is a little timid, or a little fettered. One thing is very fortunate for him; his good deeds are anti-slavery men, and seem not to have been selected by the rule generally adopted in our Congregational churches, as it was explained by Rev. Levi Loring, of Buxton, to the late worthy pastor of the church at Limerick. After the loss of one of his deacons, Father Freeman said to his Brother Loring, "you are well acquainted with the brethren in my church—whom do you think we had better select for a deacon?" Said Mr. Loring, "I can tell you, Brother Freeman, what the rule has been in our denomination. Go through the church, and find the brother that is most unwilling to acknowledge a thing when it is convenient, and make a deacon of him."

The deacons of Gorham have in a high degree one good quality common to men in that office; they are not easily turned from the path of duty, or deterred from independent action where they are conscious of being in the right.

I fully believe nine-tenths of the clergymen in the State would be outspoken, active and zealous abolitionists, if the churches were willing to have them so. Yes, sir, take them over from your own city, and place them over churches on the Western Reserve, Ohio, or Northern Illinois, where the voice of voting abhors he finds a whole community of voting abolitionists, and the whole would talk and pray as Father Thurston and Mr. Peck do now about slavery here.

Instead of demanding that the minister shall take a stand in opposition to the opinions and wishes of his people, let us clamor for his independence by demanding first that the people shall let him alone. Not tell him—"to let abolition alone,"—"if you say anything about politics you will get into trouble,"—"I don't want a minister to keep preaching temperance and free soil to me,"—"I want to hear the gospel when I go to meeting Sunday,"—"I don't hire a man to preach anything else, and if he does, he must look to somebody else for his pay." Now let us ask the churches and parishes to allow their pastors to be independent and be their own judges in regard to what constitutes the preaching of the gospel, and tell them as a good laymen in the back part of York County told his son, who is a minister, and was asking his father's advice about carrying his abolition doctrines into the pulpit in opposition to the wishes of his church. The father, who was not an anti-slavery man, said to the son, "do you feel it to be your duty, my son, to preach anti-slavery in your pulpit?" "Yes, I do, father," replied the son. "Well, then," added the good deacon, "I advise you to fear offending the great Head of the church rather than the church over which He has set you as watchman and preacher." The advice was followed—the son has prospered.

I am having good meetings here at the F. W. Baptist Church.

Yours, faithfully, C. G. R.

For the Portland Inquirer.

#### Buxton Convention.

The friends of Freedom and Temperance met in Convention according to the given notice, at Buxton Center, Dec. 20th, 10 o'clock, A. M., and organized by choosing

DEA DANIEL APPLETON, President.

REV. URIAH CHASE, Secretary.

The gathering was respectable, the spirit excellent; great unanimity of feeling prevailed, and the remarks made were argumentative, convincing and highly interesting. Freedom and Temperance have received a new impulse in Buxton—causes that are destined to move on till Justice and Right shall triumph. Several Clergymen were present and the devotional exercises of the Convention were deeply imbued with the spirit of the Gospel, and when the meeting closed and the last prayer was being offered our hearts were filled with gratitude, and we were loth to leave the place where we had had such a feast of fat things. The Convention continued two days. The following are among the resolutions:

Resolved, That in view of the situation of our beloved country in its political, moral and religious aspects; more especially in view of what Slavery and Intemperance have done and are doing, we would say with Jefferson, "We tremble for our country," and we come together at this time to implore the blessing of Heaven upon our efforts to counteract these great evils, to take advice, and speak our minds with regard to our duty as Patriots who love their country, as Philanthropists who love their race, and as Christians who love God and the souls of their fellow men.

Resolved, That although Slavery existed in some of the States at the time of the adoption of the Federal Constitution, we are not by it under the least obligation to return the fugitive slave.

Resolved, That the causes of Liberty and Temperance are one in principle and aim, and the interests of both require that their friends should be united.

Resolved, That if Temperance or Free Soil men disregard and trample on the claims of Justice, Humanity and Progress in one direction, they have no reason to expect the blessing of God on their efforts in another.

Resolved, That as Free Soil and Temperance men in Buxton we take the broad ground of Just Government without compromise, as the only position worthy of freemen or safe for right reform.

Resolved, That we tender to Dr. C. G. Parsons our thanks for the able and interesting Lectures which he has delivered in this place.

During the Convention an Association was formed by citizens of Buxton, pledging their honor to give their influence for Freedom and Temperance both in public and private. It commences with very flattering prospects.



**Senate, Dec. 21.**—Mr. Thompson offered a resolution of the New Jersey Legislature for the construction of a lighthouse on the Cape May coast, and for a bridge at Cape May. The bill was read, and a copy of a bill to construct a line of telegraph from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean.

Mr. Gwin, from the Naval Committee, made a report in favor of the building of six steam frigates, recommended by the House bill. The French Spoliations bill was referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Hamlin, Thompson, Dawson, Pearce, and Johnson.

**House.**—Mr. Phillips offered a resolution, instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the propriety of completing the river and harbor improvements already commenced.

Mr. McDonald moved to lay it on the table. Negative—yeas 55, nays 112.

Mr. Dunham moved a reconsideration of the vote on Mr. Phillips' resolution, contending that the resolution was not in order, as it was not a bill and a bill cannot be reconsidered.

Mr. Phillips replied to Mr. Dean in an anti-slavery speech, and against the payment of the indemnity in the Armistice case.

Mr. Chandler defended a former member from Philadelphia, from certain reflections cast upon him by Mr. Giddings, and after a few words, withdrew.

Mr. Wright obtained the floor. The Convention rose and the House adjourned.

**Senate, Dec. 22.** Mr. Gwin gave notice of several bills granting land for railroads in California.

Mr. Shields' resolution was adopted directing inquiry as to dividing Illinois into two judicial districts.

Mr. Hamlin introduced a bill to establish a line of telegraph from the Mississippi river to the Pacific.

Mr. Sumner offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing inquiry into the propriety of sending to foreign Post Offices, to be used in place of ordinary drafts for remittances.

**House.**—The delegate from Nebraska took his seat.

Mr. Disney introduced the French Spoliations bill. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Various resolutions were adopted; among them one requesting the President to communicate his plan for the enlargement and modification of the Judicial system.

Mr. Wentworth (Ill.) offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Rules to inquire into the expediency of providing for an equalization of the privileges of claim agents.

Mr. Sumner introduced a bill to amend the laws of the United States, relating to the duties of the United States Marshal, and to the duties of the United States Marshal's office.

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whether it was to go forth with no other errors.

Mr. Jones (Tenn.) objected to the asking of the question.

The House went into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union on the President's Message.

Mr. Phillips made the question before the Committee was a reference of the President's Message, but in the latitude of debate there had been involved the principles of the Message, the question of Slavery, the conduct of Captain Ingraham, and the affairs of the country.

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